



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA FOUNDATION

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

January 20, 2017 | 12:45 pm
Rogers Hall Dining Room

Present: Harry Smith '64, Chair, Jeff Johnson '85, Vice Chair, David Sunseri '98, Treasurer, Marty Abrams '81, Debbie Shaw '82, Weldon Cole '60, Ken Kitts, Rusty Trapp and Will Trapp.

Others: Evan Thornton and Jason McNeal

Chair Harry Smith opened the meeting at 12:45 PM and after prayer welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new Executive Committee. He also welcomed to the meeting Dr. Jason McNeal, consultant from the firm Gonser Gerber, which works with the University President and Office of Advancement on strategies/campaign/advancement-related priorities. Evan Thornton, interim VP for Business and Finance was also an invited guest.

Mr. Smith asked Dr. McNeal to share his thoughts on the purpose of a Foundation, offering counsel to our group as we started our meeting. Dr. McNeal shared a document "Great Governing Boards" which he encouraged everyone to read. Mr. Smith then asked all members to share individually with the group their thoughts on our purpose and plans for the future. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Smith made available to all members a folder of the bylaws, memorandum of understanding, and other basic items important to the Foundation. He relayed he was proud of the committee structure in place on the Foundation board and of the work of the volunteer directors. Smith relayed it was his hope that the Executive Committee will review committee recommendations before they go to the full board for approval and that hopefully the recommendations will be approved by the full board with very few, if any exceptions.

Weldon Cole led a discussion on the future of our investment strategies and plans; discussion followed with various members of the committee providing their thoughts and observations. Committee members acknowledged a difference of opinion exists among one another as to the next step; several members mentioned needing to allow the Investment Committee to do their work, and questions were raised as to the performance, past and present of Gerber Taylor as it relates to Foundation investments.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.